



# Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

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May 8, 2014

Mr. Keith Wallace, Project Manager  
California Department of Water Resources  
Division of Integrated Regional Water Management  
Post Office Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236

Subject: Comments on 2014 Drought Grant Proposal Solicitation Package

Dear Mr. Wallace,

The purpose of this letter is to provide comments on the Department of Water Resources' draft 2014 Drought Grant Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP). The Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority (UMRWA, or Authority) is the approved regional water management group for the Mokelumne-Amador-Calaveras (MAC) region. The Authority is a joint powers agency established in the year 2000 for the purpose of preserving and enhancing Mokelumne River water supply, water quality, and the environment. UMRWA is a public agency representing the integrated regional water management interests of MAC region.

In reviewing the draft 2014 Drought Solicitation PSP the Authority has identified the following concerns and recommended changes.

- We strongly encourage DWR to not include CASGEM monitoring as an eligibility criteria for this Drought Solicitation. Doing so is clearly counter-productive to the drought relief measures which DWR hopes to implement through this expedited Drought Solicitation.
- We suggest that DWR apply a cap (e.g. 50%) on the amount awarded in each Funding Area so there is some funding remaining for the final 2015 round of Implementation Grants. This could be extremely important for regions with DAC and other critical need projects that aren't drought related.
- While supportive of the Human Right to Water concept we are concerned how points will be allocated during the review and scoring process. Please provide more clarity on how points will be determined.
- And finally, a 'thank you' for calling for a Project Analysis section with a cost/economic component (as part of Attachment 3 – Project Justification) in lieu of the complicated and costly economic analysis previously required.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit these comments. Please email me at [robalcott@aol.com](mailto:robalcott@aol.com) or call me at (707)785-1008 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Rob Alcott  
Executive Officer

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